

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00
NSCE-00 /026 W
-----291748Z 056660 /50
O 291615Z ZPR 77 ZFF
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3027

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP, RO
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS TINKER AND DEHANN TO VISIT
ROMANIA

REF: STATE 096480

1. AMBASSADOR HAS JUST RETURNED FROM MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR
VASILE SANDRU WHO HAS BEEN PLACED IN CHARGE OF ARRANGEMENTS
FOR STAFFDEL VISIT. SANDRU (PRONOUNCED SHAHNDREW) FORMER
DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA, HAS
UNTIL RECENTLY BEEN A DEPUTY CHIEF IN RCP CC FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SECTION. HE IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS MFA COORDINATOR FOR
FOREIGN EARTHQUAKE ASSISTANCE AND HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR AID
RELIEF TEAM'S PROGRAM AS WELL.

2. MFA RECEIVED ITS FIRST WORD OF STAFFDEL VISIT EARLY THIS
AFTERNOON AND THEIR INFORMATION ESSENTIALLY JIBES WITH OURS
EXCEPT FOR FOLLOWING POINTS: STAFFDEL REPORTED TO BE INTERESTED
IN VISIT TO PLOIESTI AND UNSPECIFIED DISCUSSIONS AT GRAND
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (GNA)

3. FOLLOWING REPRESENTS PROGRAM SUGGESTED BY SANDRU:
MAY 1 DINNER WITH SANDRU TO DISCUSS VISIT OBJECTIVES

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MAY 2 VISIT TO CRAIOVA AND ZIMNICEA

MAY 3 AM. MEETING AT BUCHAREST PEOPLE'S COUNCIL
(CITY HALL) FOLLOWED BY VISIT TO AFFECTED AREAS

PM. VISIT PLOIESTI

MAY 4 MEETINGS AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE FOREIGN
MINISTER, AND BRIEF MEETING AT GNA FOLLOWED BY LUNCH
GIVEN BY GNA

4. AMBASSADOR TOLD SANDRU OF HIS PLANS TO MEET WITH STAFFDEL
SOMETIME SUNDAY AND SUGGESTED
THAT SANDRU'S DINNER BE AN EARLY AND FAIRLY SHORT ONE AFTER
HIS MEETING WITH STAFFDEL. SANDRU AGREEABLE TO ANY VARIATION
STAFFDEL LIKES BUT DEFINITELY WANTS TO MEET THEN SUNDAY
SO HE HAS A BETTER IDEA OF THEIR INTERESTS. AMBASSADOR
ALSO SUGGESTED THAT TUESDAY PROGRAM MIGHT START EARLIER SO AS
TO ALLOW STAFFDEL TO RETURN TO BUCHAREST FROM PLOIESTE IN
TIME TO HAVE BRIEF GNA MEETING FOLLOWED BY DINNER THUS ALLOWING
MORE TIME FOR WEDNESDAY MEETINGS. SANDRU AGREEABLE TO THIS
VARIANT AS WELL. LASTLY AMBASSADOR ASKED THAT MONDAY EVENING
BE LEFT FREE TO GIVE AID TEAM AND STAFFDEL CHANCE TO COMPARE
NOTES BEFORE TEAM LEAVES TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

5. SANDRU SAIS HE HAD NO WAY OF
KNOWING AT THIS STAGE WHETHER MEETING WITH CEAUSESCU WAS
POSSIBLE OR NOT. THIS WOULD DEPEND IN PART ON NATURE OF MESSAGE
BEING CARRIED FROM SENATOR KENNEDY, WHICH WILL BE
ONE OF SUBJECTS HE WILL BRING UP SUNDAY. IN ANY CASE HE SAID IF
CEAUSESCU MEETING NOT POSSIBLE, SENIOR OFFICIAL WILL BE DESIGNATED
TO RECEIVE LETTER WEDNESDAY.

6. IN VIEW OF SUBCOMMITTEE'S BROAD AREAS OF CONCERN, AMBASSADOR
SUGGESTED TO SANDRU THAT WEDNESDAY INTERLOCUTORS BE PREPARED
TO DISCUSS WIDER AREAS THAN DISASTER RELIEF.
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7. PLEASE REPLY WITH NIACT IMMEDIATE AS TO STAFFDELS REACTION
TO PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTIONS. SANDRU
RECOMMENDS PLOIESTI BE INCLUDED IN STAFFDEL'S ITINERARY BECAUSE
DAMAGE TO HOUSING AND TO INDUSTRY SIGNIFICANT.

8. MFA HAS RESERVED ROOMS AT ATHENEE PALACE PER STAFFDEL
REQUEST. STAFFDEL WILL BE MET BY EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER JAMES
CONNELL AND MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR DIRECTORATE III SANISLAU.
BARNES

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUCHAR03168
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770150-0775
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704101/aaaafrrha.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 69efb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 96480
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2663591
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970828
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS TINKER AND DEHANN TO VISIT ROMANIA
TAGS: OREP, RO, US, (DEHANN, DALE), (TINKER, JERRY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/69efb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009